

**DECLARATION FOR PATENT APPLICATION (JOINT OR SOLE)**  
(Under 37 CFR § 1.63; with Power of Attorney)  
**CURTIS, MORRIS & SAFFORD, P.C. File No. 45010-3752**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:  
 \* My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name,  
 I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an  
 original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed  
 and for which a patent is sought on the invention ENTITLED:

**INFORMATION RETRIEVAL APPARATUS AND METHOD**

the specification of which

X is attached hereto.

was filed on \_\_\_\_\_ as Application Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_, with  
 amendment(s) through \_\_\_\_\_ (if applicable, give dates).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified  
 specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the United States Patent and Trademark Office all information  
 known to me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Sec. 1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 119 of any foreign  
 application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign  
 application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on  
 which priority is claimed:

Prior Foreign Application(s) (list additional applications on separate page):	Priority Claimed:
Number: Country: Filed (Day/Month/Year):	Yes No
07-33445 Japan 22/12/95	X

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 120 of any United States  
 application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is  
 not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title  
 35, United States Code § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the United States Patent and Trademark  
 Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal  
 Regulations, Sec. 1.56, which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the  
 national or PCT international filing date of this application:

Prior U.S. Application(s) (list additional applications on separate page):	Status (patented, pending, abandoned):
Appl. Ser. Number: Filed (Day/Month/Year):	

I hereby appoint WILLIAM S. FROMMER, Registration No. 25,506

and ALVIN SINGERSON, Registration No. 16,313  
CURTIS, MORRIS & SAFFORD, P.C., Registration No. 12,761, or their duly appointed associate, my attorneys,  
 with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application, to make alterations and  
 amendments therein, to file continuation and divisional applications thereon, to receive the Patent, and to  
 transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office and in the Courts in connection therewith, and to  
 execute all communications about the application are to be directed to the following correspondence  
 address:

WILLIAM S. FROMMER, Esq.  
c/o CURTIS, MORRIS & SAFFORD, P.C.  
 530 Fifth Avenue  
 New York, New York 10036

Direct all telephone calls to:  
 (212) 540-3333

to the attention of:  
WILLIAM S. FROMMER

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all  
 statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were  
 made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or  
 imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false  
 statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Signature: _____	Full name of sole or first inventor: Hiroaki Kitano	Date: _____
Residence: _____	Citizenship: Japan	

Signature: _____	Full name of 2nd joint inventor (if any): Junichi Reikato	Date: _____
Residence: _____	Citizenship: Kanagawa, Japan	

Signature: _____	Full name of 3rd joint inventor (if any): _____	Date: _____
Residence: _____	Citizenship: _____	

(Specially list additional inventors on separate page)

Post Office Address(es) of inventor(s):	Sony Corporation
(if different from residence)	7-35 Kitashinagawa 4-chome
	Shinagawa-Ku, Tokyo, Japan

Note: In order to qualify for reduced fees available to Small Entities, each inventor and any other  
 individual or entity having rights to the invention must also sign an appropriate separate Verified  
 Statement (Declaration) Claiming (or Supporting a Claim by Another for) Small Entity Status form (e.g. for  
 Independent inventor, Small Business Concern, Nonprofit Organization, Individual Non-Inventor).